

# Editorial

This issue of the Bulletin contains articles which look at the way in which non-governmental initiatives overseas may help or hinder the achievement of development goals. Two points emerge clearly from the contributions. In the first place, views on this matter differ quite sharply; secondly, the differences can to a large extent be traced back to alternative choices regarding the path and the ultimate goals of development.

Maurice Zinkin, after looking at the pros and cons, argues that private foreign investment can make a positive contribution to the economies of less developed countries, while Brian Van Arkadie is less convinced of the utility of expatriate capital and know-how, and finds use for it only in a very limited range of situations. The role of voluntary aid agencies, such as Oxfam, is analysed with enthusiasm, though not without reservations, by Bernard Llewellyn; Chris Brown, on the other hand, has much more fundamental doubts about volunteer programmes, and voices some quite critical sentiments on their account. Finally, Charles Elliott examines the gradually changing approach to development prevalent among international church-organizations.

We hope that these different viewpoints can contribute to a better understanding of the issues and of the policy choices involved.

I've just seen the most recent issue of International Affairs, the quarterly journal published by Chatham House. In it is a long article by Andrew Shonfield, in which he discusses the published critical comments on the Report of the Duncan Committee on Overseas Representation. Readers of the Bulletin will remember that the first issue of this year was almost entirely

devoted to the Duncan Committee's report, and Mr. Shonfield's recent article takes up many of the points raised there.

It is not my intention to take the substantive discussion any further at this stage. But at one point Mr. Shonfield quotes a phrase from the editorial, and writes that it 'presumably reflects the views of the Institute itself'. Although that issue was prepared by my predecessor, I hasten to set the record straight for his sake, mine, and the Institute's. Neither editorials nor other articles in the Bulletin are 'cleared' before publication by any of the Institute's committees. The reason for this is that the Institute as such, an academic and research institution, does not express views or have policies in regard to controversial issues of this kind. Any opinions stated in the Editorials reflect, therefore, the views of the Editor.

The Bulletin welcomes approaches from other publications concerned with development, and will normally be happy to agree to the reproduction of articles.